

PLEASE NOTE: PAPER COPIES OF MOST ARTICLES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**1. ELECTION REFORM: WHAT'S CHANGED, WHAT HASN'T AND WHY.**

Electionline.org. January 23, 2004.

*This new report provides a national overview of the scope and progress of changes to elections around the country. Some election reform rules were adopted by every state and territory as a result of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002.*

*The authors find that many of the election problems revealed in Florida and elsewhere during the 2000 presidential election have not yet been solved. The report details specific election changes in each of the 50 states, highlighting states that have been leaders such as New Hampshire, Georgia and California as well as states that have work left undone such as New York, Massachusetts and Wisconsin.*

*[Note: electionline.org, produced by the Election Reform Information Project, is a non-partisan, non-advocacy website providing news and analysis on election reform.]*

[http://www.electionline.org/site/docs/pdf/ERIP\\_AR2004.pdf](http://www.electionline.org/site/docs/pdf/ERIP_AR2004.pdf) [pdf format, 72 pages]

**2. PAYING FOR IRAQ'S RECONSTRUCTION.**

Congress of the United States. Congressional Budget Office (CBO). January 2004.

*Estimates of the cost of rebuilding Iraq in the wake of the overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime range from \$50 billion to \$100 billion. In recent months, U.S. lawmakers have provided more than \$18 billion in grants to assist in that reconstruction. Other countries and organizations have pledged a similar amount, mostly in the form of loans. This Congressional Budget Office (CBO) paper—prepared in response to separate requests from the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee and the Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee—examines the key resource issues related to Iraq's recovery.*

<ftp://ftp.cbo.gov/49xx/doc4983/01-23-Iraq.pdf> [pdf format, 45 pages]

**3. HOLOCAUST DENIAL: A GLOBAL SURVEY - 2003.**

Alex Grobman and Rafael Medoff. The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies. December 2003.

*According to this report, Holocaust denial activity decreased in the United States during 2003, but continued full force in government-sponsored media in Arab countries and the Palestinian Authority. The decrease in the United States was due to the ongoing legal conflicts between the two major U.S. promoters of Holocaust denial, the Institute for Historical Review and Liberty Lobby founder Willis Carto. At the same time, British Holocaust-denier David Irving maintained an active presence on the U.S. lecture circuit throughout the year, speaking in at least twenty-five cities.*

*[Note: Footnotes open in a new window. The printed document from the url below will not have the footnote references.]*

<http://www.wymaninstitute.org/denialreport/2003.php> [html format, 11 printed pages]

Disclaimer: Statements and opinions appearing in this newsletter and the articles quoted express the opinions of the authors and do not constitute official endorsement or approval by the U.S. Government.



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**4. 36 JOURNALISTS KILLED IN 2003.**

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). January 2, 2004.

CPJ asserts that their research "indicates that the following individuals have been killed in 2003 because of their work as journalists. They either died in the line of duty or were deliberately targeted for assassination because of their reporting or their affiliation with a news organization." Included for each of the 36 journalists named are a brief biography, his or her media affiliations, and the circumstances of his or her death. In addition to 13 who died in Iraq are those who died covering stories in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and South America. At the end of the list of 36, there is another list of 12 journalists who, according to CPJ, died "suspicious deaths". This list is called "Killed: Motive Unconfirmed."

[Note: See also CPJ's list of missing journalists (1994 and 2003)

[http://www.cpj.org/Briefings/2003/missing\\_list\\_03.html](http://www.cpj.org/Briefings/2003/missing_list_03.html) There is also a hyperlinked table, listed by country, of "Cases of Attacks on the Press in 2003" at: [http://www.cpj.org/cases03/cases03\\_TOC.html](http://www.cpj.org/cases03/cases03_TOC.html)

Full Report and List: <http://www.cpj.org/killed/killed03.html> [English-language, html format, 30 printed pages]

**5. BOUNDING THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM.**

Jeffrey Record. United States Army War College. Strategic Studies Institute (SSI). December 2003.

The author examines three features of the war on terrorism as currently defined and conducted: (1) the administration's postulation of the terrorist threat; (2) the scope and feasibility of U.S. war aims; and (3) the war's political, fiscal, and military sustainability. He believes that the war on terrorism - as opposed to the campaign against al-Qaeda - lacks strategic clarity, embraces unrealistic objectives, and may not be sustainable over the long haul. He calls for downsizing the scope of the war on terrorism to reflect concrete U.S. security interests and the limits of American military power.

<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ssi/pubs/2003/bounding/bounding.pdf> [pdf format, 62 pages]

**6. BIODETECTION ARCHITECTURES.**

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration. February 2003, web-posted January 2004.

[Note: This unclassified report, prepared by the Mitre Corporation for DOE, is part of a group of reports produced by the independent JASON advisory group, which was established in 1960 to harness non-governmental scientific expertise in the service of national defense.]

The scientific advisors that authored this report argue that it is unrealistic to deploy a nationwide "blanket" of biosensors to detect the release of lethal biological agents in the event of an act of bioterrorism. Limited use of expensive and complex sensors should be used only in special areas that may be more vulnerable to such attacks. They conclude that better public information will strengthen "the most important component of an effective biodetection architecture" already in place: that is, the U.S. public. According to the scientists, the citizenry constitutes "a network of 288 million mobile sensors with the capacity to self-report exposures of medical consequence to a broad range of pathogens," the study said, allowing other, conventional types of "sensors" to be deployed in a more focused manner.

<http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/dod/jason/biodet.pdf> [pdf format, 44 pages]

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**7. MAKING AND REMAKING AMERICA: IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES. [Hoover Essays No. 25]**

Philip Martin and Peter Duignan. Stanford University. Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace. 2003.

On September 11, 2001, foreigners in the United States hijacked four commercial planes. Two were flown into the World Trade Center towers in New York City, bringing them down and killing 3,000 people. President George W. Bush declared war on terrorists and the countries that harbor them, and Congress enacted legislation to fight terrorism. This includes new measures for tightening procedures for issuing visas to foreign visitors, tracking foreign students and visitors while they are in the United States, and giving immigration authorities new power to arrest and detain foreigners suspected of ties to terrorism. However, anti-terrorism measures have not slowed immigration to the United States. America is poised to remain the world's major destination for immigrants, and as patterns in U.S. history suggest, most of the newcomers will soon become Americans.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

<http://www-hoover.stanford.edu/publications/he/25/25.pdf> [pdf format, 61 pages]

**8. DEALING WITH HAMAS. [Middle East Report No. 21]**

International Crisis Group (ICG). January 26, 2004.

Dealing with the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) by a strategy based on military action alone is unlikely to succeed, however attractive this may seem to those appalled by Hamas's record of violence against civilians. Military responses have neither ensured security nor advanced peace prospects. According to the author of this report, "There would appear to be no realistic alternative but to try to prevent escalating violence and stem the disintegration of authority on the Palestinian side by seeking to bring Hamas into the equation. This involves, first, pursuit of a negotiated, reciprocal ceasefire including the PA, Hamas and Israel. It would also involve a new internal Palestinian consensus encompassing the mainstream secular movement, its Islamist rival and other factions. Essential to these steps would be an overall context of strong international commitment to a comprehensive endgame blueprint for peace."

[http://www.crisisweb.org/library/documents/middle\\_east\\_north\\_africa/21\\_dealing\\_with\\_hamas.pdf](http://www.crisisweb.org/library/documents/middle_east_north_africa/21_dealing_with_hamas.pdf) [pdf format, 48 pages]

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